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Title:Need to provide financial assistance for smooth functioning of Nehru Trophy Boat Race, a tourism event conducted annually at Alappuzha, Kerala.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Nehru Trophy Boat Race (NTBR), is a globally known unique tourism event, conducted annually at Alappuzha, Kerala. This boat race is known as the greatest water sport in the world and branded in the name of our beloved first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. It is known as 'Kuttanad's Olympics on Water'. This year Kerala is celebrating the 58$^{th}$ year of Nehru Trophy Boat Race. It is the 58$^{th}$ year of this marvellous event and India's most eminent dignitaries have participated in different years. This prestigious function is watched all over the world and hundreds of foreign tourists and lots of VVIP's are participating in this function every year. It will be very difficult to set up pavilions and other arrangement temporarily every year including security arrangements. Also, it is very difficult to conduct this mega event without the financial support of the Government. Kerala Government has sanctioned an amount which is insufficient to meet the requirements. In this context the Government should take it as a national event and originate an annual grant of Rs. 25 lakhs from the Tourism Ministry for the functioning of this globally known tourism event in the name of our former Prime Minister Panditji and also promptly make a decision to built up a permanent pavilion with world class facilities for Nehru Trophy Boat Race.